SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are about 40 lakh labourers working in the Beedi manufacturing industry and if we take into account their dependents and families as well, they number about two crores. In the State of Bihar alone, there are about four lakh Beedi workers and if their families too are taken into account, they number about twenty lakhs. They are an unorganised lot and do not enjoy the job security and other benefits being given to industrial workers. Taking advantage of the situation of these workers being unorganised, owners of Bidi manufacturing units in Bihar have started running cottage industries. This is an anti-worker and illegal act on their part and their objectives are to evade the provisions of the Factories Act, to deprive the workers of their legitimate rights and to evade crores of rupees that they have to pay to the Government as excise duty. I request the Government to check this conversion into cottage industries and to bring forward a Central legislation to check evasion of Excise Duty. This would prove beneficial to both the Government and the workers.

Dr. Gunvant Rambhau Sarode (Jalgaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the hon. Minister of Railways towards the loss of crores of rupees to the banana growers of Jalgaon district of Maharashtra, due to late running of railway racks. You may be aware of the fact that Jalgaon district of Maharashtra is the largest supplier of Bananas to the markets of northern India. These fruits are transported to various centres through railway racks and any delay in their reaching their respective destinations means great loss to the cultivators. If the train takes four or five days on its way, then the bananas become ripe as a result of which their prices fall. This has resulted in loss of at least 6-7 crore rupees to the farmers. I request the hon. Minister to take this into consideration and make such arrangements, so that the trains reach Delhi within two days of their departure from Jalgoan. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government, the involvement and collusion of the Customs Collector posted at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, in smuggling activities. The Customs Collector, in connivance with his inspectors allow the smugglers to pass through the Green Channel. Honest inspectors, who oppose him are either suspended or cases are registered against them. Recently, on July 21, 1991, two people, carrying two large suit cases, who arrived by flight number HQ 408 on the Singapore-Delhi route were allowed to go through the green channel. In their suit cases, they carried smuggled goods including electronic items and gold. Interestingly, these two suitcases were cross-marked. An inspector, who dared to check the suitcases was threatened of disciplinary action and what's more, the customs collector took these smugglers with him and had a cup of tea with them. Four inspectors, who opposed him were booked under COFEPOSA but later on the court found them innocent. That no action has been taken against such a corrupt official goes on to show the incompetence of the Government. I urge upon the Government to the take stringent action against the smugglers and order an inquiry into the lapses and acts of omission, on the part of the said official during his tenure at the Indira Gandhi Airport.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Andhra Pradesh occupies a place next only to Karnataka in Sericulture cultivation in our country. It is the livelihood for nearly 9 lakh persons in Andhra Pradesh. Nearly 32,000 tonnes of Cacoons is produced in Andhra Pradesh. Sericulture is making rapid progress in my constituency in particular in Ramireddypalli, Jonnalagadda and Gampalagudem areas. These farmers have to take the cacoons to Chennapatna and other places in Karnataka